## the Brief

#### CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

### 2018 Annual Water Quality Report

The 2018 Water Quality Report is now available.

Visit **SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Water**to view the report to learn more
about the sources and quality
of your drinking water.

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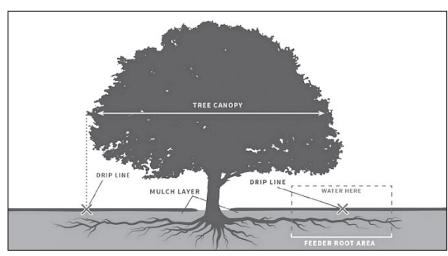
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#### SantaBarbaraCA.gov

September 2018

# TREE WATERING DURING TIMES OF DROUGHT



Keep trees healthy through responsible water practices.

Trees in climates like Santa Barbara's should be watered even in years when there's enough rain—but during times of drought, they need our help more than ever. Use the tips below to keep trees healthy through responsible water use.

#### Water at the best time of day

Water in the evening or very early morning. This allows water to soak into the soil before the daytime sun speeds evaporation.

#### Use mulch to keep water in the soil

Adding a layer of mulch insulates and feeds the tree's roots. Make the layer 4–6 inches thick, and extend it out as far as the tree's drip line—but keep it 2 inches away from the trunk to prevent rot.

#### Account for age/species

Trees of different ages and species have varying watering needs.

#### Use soaker hoses/drip

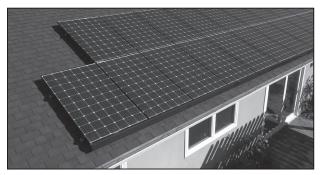
Soaker hoses and inline drip tubing systems are much more effective for watering trees. Lawn sprinklers don't water deep enough.

#### Water where it counts

Water around a mature tree's drip line, as this allows water to reach the tree's feeder roots.

For more information and resources visit SantaBarbaraCA.gov/TreeWatering.

### SOLARIZE SANTA BARBARA PROGRAM EXTENDED



Residents can still benefit from discounts on solar equipment and installation.

The Community Environmental Council's 2018 Solarize Santa Barbara Program deadline has been extended to September 21. Residents can benefit from discounted prices on high-quality equipment and solar installation from vetted installers in this community-led program. Previous Solarize Santa Barbara programs have already helped 203 homeowners go solar.

In addition to receiving a discounted price, Solarize participants gain the peace of mind that their installer has been vetted by a local committee of experts.

Solarize Santa Barbara 2018 is happy to announce its partnership with two vetted, local, solar companies, Brighten Solar and California Solar Electric.

The Solarize Santa Barbara 2018 program also offers residents options for solar-paired energy storage. A battery system may be a great purchase for residents who want to avoid high peak energy prices by storing energy during the day, and using that stored energy in the evenings. The battery option available through Solarize Santa Barbara is eligible for Southern California Edison's "self-generation" incentives, which brings down the prices of battery systems for many participants.

# COUNCIL APPROVES EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE BAN



Using reusable containers or alternatives to singleuse plastics can help residents and businesses save money.

The Council recently adopted a ban on expanded polystyrene (EPS), also known as styrofoam. The ban prohibits food or beverage vendors from distributing EPS products like foam cups, plates, clamshells, bowls, and trays. This includes, but is not liminated to the council recently adopted to the council recently adopted

ited to, dine-in orders, to-go orders, and food or beverage products packaged in the City of Santa Barbara that do not meet the ordinance exemptions. The ordinance goes into effect on January 1, 2019, and in preparation, the City recycling outreach team will help businesses to find more sustainable alternatives.

Reusable Containers are the best alternative. For residents that frequent coffee, smoothie, or food vendors, consider bringing a reusable cup or food container. Reusable containers are available at many retailers and come in a range of materials. Many vendors offer discounts to patrons who bring their reusable cup.

Encouraging patrons to bring a reusable cup or food container can save businesses money as well, because of decreased disposable container costs. It could also mean trash bill savings.

Foods prepared or packaged outside the City and then sold within the City, as well as raw meat, fish, and other raw food trays are exempt from the provisions of the ban. For a full list of exemptions and other details **SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Recycling.** 

## CREEK WEEK TAKES PLACE SEPTEMBER 15-22

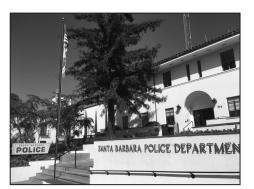


Celebrate Creek Week with a variety of cleanups, tours, and events.

Creek Week is an annual celebration of our creeks, watersheds, and ocean, with many local organizations hosting events to help build awareness and stewardship of the natural treasures of Santa Barbara, Goleta, and Carpinteria. Join in guided nature walks, project tours, restoration events, beach

and creek clean-ups, and much more. Be part of the solution. Coastal Cleanup Day is on September 15. With more than 30 sites to choose from throughout Santa Barbara County, it's time to spruce up your favorite beach. On September 19 tour the Upper Arroyo Burro restoration at Barger Canyon. In late 2013, the Creeks Division purchased a 14.19 acre parcel on Foothill Road. A large restoration project was completed in December 2016. Visit the site and see the restoration project's progress. For a full schedule of events visit **SBCreekWeek.com**.





The Council has approved the site selection process for the new police station project.

# CITY SEEKS LOCATION FOR NEW POLICE STATION

On August 14, the Council approved the site selection process for the Police Station project. This phase will entail considering all City-owned properties as potential candidates to accommodate a new police station and parking structure. These sites ideally will be located in the downtown area and not in the flood zone.

As part of this next phase, the City will consider any viable site locations, including private property. The site selection process is expected to be completed by the end of this year. This work is made possible by Measure C funds.